AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

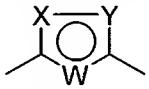
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

1. (**Currently Amended**) A compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:

$$R^1\text{-}V\text{-}B\text{-}R^2$$

(I)

wherein V represents a 5-membered heteroaryl ring of the formula:



wherein W is N and one of X and Y is N and the other is O;

B is -CH=CH- or $(CH_2)_n$, where one of the CH_2 groups may be replaced by O, NR^5, $S(O)_m$, C(O) or $C(O)NR^{12}$;

n is 2 or 3;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

R^1 is 4-pyridyl optionally substituted by 1 or 2 halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, OR^6, CN, NO_2, $S(O)_mR^6$, $CON(R^6)_2$, $N(R^6)_2$, $NR^{10}COR^6$, $NR^{10}SO_2R^6$, $SO_2N(R^6)_2$, 4- to 7-membered heterocyclyl or 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl groups;

R^2 is 4- to 7-membered cycloalkyl substituted by R^3, $C(O)OR^3$, $C(O)R^3$ or $S(O)_2R^3$, or R^2 is 4- to 7-membered heterocyclyl, wherein the heterocycle contains one nitrogen atom which is substituted by ~~containing one or two nitrogen atoms which is unsubstituted or substituted by~~ $C(O)OR^4$, $C(O)R^3$, $S(O)_2R^3$, $C(O)NHR^4$, $P(O)(OR^{11})_2$ or a 5- or 6-membered nitrogen containing heteroaryl group;

R^3 is C_{3-8} alkyl, C_{3-8} alkenyl or C_{3-8} alkynyl, any of which may be optionally substituted with up to 5 fluoro or chloro atoms, and may contain a CH_2 group that may be replaced by O, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4} alkylC_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-4} alkylaryl, C_{1-4} alkylheterocyclyl or C_{1-4} alkylheteroaryl, any of which may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^6, CN, CO_2C_{1-4} alkyl, $N(R^6)_2$ and NO_2;

R^4 is C_{2-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl, any of which may be optionally substituted with up to 5 fluoro or chloro atoms, and may contain a CH_2 group that may be replaced by O, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4} alkylC_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-4} alkylaryl, C_{1-4} alkylheterocyclyl or C_{1-4} alkylheteroaryl, any of which may be substituted with one or more

substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^6, CN, CO_2C_{1-4} alkyl, $N(R^6)_2$ and NO_2;

R^5 is hydrogen, $C(O)R^7$, $S(O)_2R^8$, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted by OR^6, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl, wherein the cyclic groups may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} fluoroalkyl, OR^6, CN, $N(R^6)_2$ and NO_2;

R^6 are independently hydrogen C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl, wherein the cyclic groups may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^9, CN, SO_2CH_3, $N(R^{10})_2$ and NO_2; or a group $N(R^{10})_2$ may form a 4- to 7-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from O and NR^{10};

R^7 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, OR^6, $N(R^6)_2$, aryl or heteroaryl;

R^8 is C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl;

R^9 is hydrogen, C_{1-2} alkyl or C_{1-2} fluoroalkyl;

R^{10} is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{11} is phenyl; and

R^{12} is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl;

provided that the compound is not:

a) 4-(5-piperidin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl)pyridine;

b) 4-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ^{t}butyl ester; or

c) 4-[5-(4-butylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine.

2-8. **(Canceled)**.

9. **(Previously Presented)** A compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein R^1 is 4-pyridyl optionally substituted by halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy or CN.

10. **(Previously Presented)** A compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^2 is a 4- to 7-membered cycloalkyl substituted by R^3, or 4- to 7-membered heterocyclyl containing one nitrogen atom which is substituted by $C(O)OR^4$.

11. **(Previously Presented; Withdrawn)** A compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^3 is C_{3-8} alkyl which may contain a CH_2 group that may be replaced by O, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl.

12. **(Previously Presented)** A compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^4 is C_{2-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl, any of which may be optionally substituted with up to 5 fluoro or chloro atoms, and may contain a CH_2 group that may be replaced by O, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, 5- to 6-membered heteroaryl containing one or two

nitrogen atoms, C_{1-4} alkylC_{3-7} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkylaryl, any of which may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^6 and CO_2C_{1-4} alkyl.

13. (**Original**) A compound according to claim 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^4 is C_{3-6} alkyl optionally substituted with up to 5 fluoro or chloro atoms, and which may contain a CH_2 group that may be replaced by O, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl.

14. (**Previously Presented; Withdrawn**) A compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^5 is C_{1-4} alkyl.

15. (**Currently Amended**) A compound selected from ~~as defined in any one of Examples 1, 3 to 5, 10 to 13, 16 to 39, 41, 42, 52 to 132, 134, 135, or 147 to 149,~~

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

3-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-[5-(4-Pentylcyclohexylmethyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine;

trans-2-Chloro-4-[5-(4-pentylcyclohexane)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine;

4-[5-(4-*n*-Propylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine;

trans-4-[5-(4-Pentylcyclohexane)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine ;

4-[2-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)-ethyl]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

trans-4-[3-(4-Pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine-2-carboxylic acid methylamide;

trans-4-[5-(4-Pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine-2-carboxylic acid amide;

trans-4-[3-(4-Pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-2-Chloro-4-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-3-[3-(4-Pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-2-Methyl-3-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-2-Chloro-6-methyl-4-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-4-[3-(4-Pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine-2-carbonitrile ;

trans-2-Chloro-3-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-2-Chloro-6-methyl-3-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-2-Methyl-5-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-3-Methyl-5-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-2,6-Dichloro-4-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-2-Chloro-6-methoxy-4-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-5-[3-(4-Pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]-2-[1,2,4]triazol-1-ylpyridine;

2-[3-(4-Pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyrazine;

4-[3-(4-Pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyrimidine;

trans-5-[3-(4-Pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine-2-carbonitrile;

trans-5-Chloro-2-methylsulfanyl-4-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyrimidine;

trans-2-Fluoro-5-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-2-Fluoro-4-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-2-Imidazol-1-yl-5-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-2-Methyl-4-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

trans-3-Methyl-4-[3-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl]pyridine;

4-(5-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-[5-(2-Cyanopyridin-4-yl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-ylmethoxy]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid isobutyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 2-methoxyethyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

3,3-Dimethyl-1-[4-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]butan-1-one;

2-Cyclopentyl-1-[4-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)piperidin-1-yl]ethanone;

4-{5-[1-(Butane-1-sulfonyl)piperidin-4-yl]-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl}pyridine;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid propylamide;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butylamide;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid cyclopentyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid benzyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid isobutyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid cycloheptyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid methyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 2-methoxy-ethyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 4-methoxy-phenyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 2,2,2-trichloroethyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 4-chloro-phenyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid phenyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 2-ethyl-hexyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid propyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid hexyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid (*1R,2S,5R*)-2-isopropyl-5-methylcyclohexyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid (*1S,2R,5S*)-2-isopropyl-5-methylcyclohexyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 2,2-dimethylpropyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid naphthalen-1-yl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 2-methoxy-phenyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 3-trifluoromethylphenyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid prop-2-ynyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid but-2-ynyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid pentyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *p*-tolyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 2-chloro-phenyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid naphthalen-2-yl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid butyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 4-methoxycarbonyl-phenyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid 4-fluoro-phenyl ester;

3-Methyl-1-[4-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidin-1-yl]-butan-1-one;

Phenyl-[4-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidin-1-yl]methanone;

1-[4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidin-1-yl]butan-1-one;

2,2-Dimethyl-1-[4-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidin-1-yl]propan-1-one;

Cyclopentyl-[4-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidin-1-yl]methanone;

[4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidin-1-yl]-*p*-tolylmethanone;

3,3-Dimethyl-1-[4-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidin-1-yl]butan-1-one;

4-{5-[1-(Butane-1-sulfonyl) piperidin-4-yloxymethyl]-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl}pyridine;

4-{5-[1-(Propane-1-sulfonyl) piperidin-4-yloxymethyl]-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl}pyridine;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butylamide;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *o*-tolylamide;

trans-4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)cyclohexanecarboxylic acid propyl ester;

trans-4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)cyclohexanecarboxylic acid butyl ester;

trans-4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-yl)cyclohexanecarboxylic acid isobutyl ester;

trans-4-[5-(4-Propoxymethylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine;

trans-4-[5-(4-Butoxymethylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine;

cis-4-[5-(3-Butoxymethylcyclopentyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine;

cis-4-[5-(3-Propoxymethylcyclopentyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine;

cis-4-[5-(3-Butoxymethylcyclohexyl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl]pyridine;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2H-[1,3']bipyridinyl;

2-[4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidin-1-yl]pyrazine;

2-[4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidin-1-yl]pyrimidine;

(4-Pentylcyclohexyl)-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amine;

(4-Pentylcyclohexyl-methyl)-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amine;

4-[(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-{[(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]methyl}-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-{[5-(2-Cyanopyridin-4-yl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-ylmethyl]amino}-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester

Methyl-(4-pentylcyclohexyl)-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amine;

Methyl-(4-pentylcyclohexylmethyl)-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amine;

4-[Methyl-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-[Ethyl-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-[Propyl-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-[Cyclopropylmethyl-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-[Butyl-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-{[Methyl-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]methyl}-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-{[Ethyl-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]methyl}-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-{[5-(2-Cyanopyridin-4-yl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-ylmethyl]ethylamino}-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-[Methyl-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid cyclopentyl ester;

4-[Methyl-(3-pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)amino]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid cyclopentyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxymethyl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethyl)piperazine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethylsulfanyl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethanesulfonyl)piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester

3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazole-5-carboxylic acid (4-pentylcyclohexyl)amide;

[4-(3-Pyridin-4-yl-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-5-ylmethoxy)piperidin-1-yl]phosphonic acid diphenyl ester;

4-{5-[2-(2H-Tetrazol-5-yl)pyridin-4-yl]-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-ylmethoxy}-piperidine-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester;

4-[5-(2-Cyanopyridin-4-yl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-ylmethoxy]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid isopropyl ester; and

4-[5-(2-Cyanopyridin-4-yl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-ylmethoxy]piperidine-1-carboxylic acid phenyl ester;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (**Currently Amended**) A compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein B is –CH=CH- or $(CH_2)_n$, where one of the CH_2 groups may be replaced by O, NR^5, $S(O)_m$ or C(O);

n is 2 or 3;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

R^2 is [[a]] 4- to 7-membered heterocyclyl containing one nitrogen atom which is substituted by $C(O)OR^4$ or a 6-membered nitrogen containing heteroaryl group;

R^4 is C_{2-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl, any of which may be optionally substituted with up to 5 fluoro or chloro atoms, and may contain a CH_2 group that may be replaced by O, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4} alkylC_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-4} alkylaryl, C_{1-4} alkylheterocyclyl or C_{1-4} alkylheteroaryl, any of which may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^6, CN, CO_2C_{1-4} alkyl, $N(R^6)_2$ and NO_2;

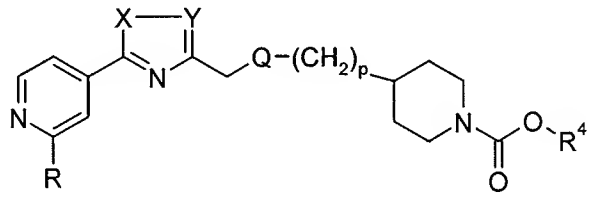
R^5 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^6 are independently hydrogen, or C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl, wherein the cyclic groups may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^9, CN, SO_2CH_3, $N(R^{10})_2$ and NO_2; or a group $N(R^{10})_2$ may form a 4- to 7-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from O and NR^{10};

R^9 is hydrogen, C_{1-2} alkyl or C_{1-2} fluoroalkyl; and

R^{10} is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl.

17. (**Currently Amended**) A compound ~~according to claim 1~~ having the formula (Ie), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(Ie)

wherein one of X and Y is N, and the other is O;

Q is O, NR^5 or CH_2;

R is hydrogen, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, OR^6, CN, NO_2, $S(O)_mR^6$, $CON(R^6)_2$, $N(R^6)_2$, $NR^{10}COR^6$, $NR^{10}SO_2R^6$, $SO_2N(R^6)_2$, a 4- to 7-membered heterocyclyl group or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl group;

R^4 is C_{2-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl, any of which may be optionally substituted with up to 5 fluoro or chloro atoms, and contain a CH_2 group that may be replaced by O, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4} alkylC_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-4} alkylaryl, C_{1-4} alkylheterocyclyl or C_{1-4} alkylheteroaryl, any of which may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^6, CN, CO_2C_{1-4} alkyl, $N(R^6)_2$ and NO_2;

R^5 is C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^6 are independently hydrogen, or C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl, wherein the cyclic groups may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^9, CN, SO_2CH_3, $N(R^{10})_2$ and NO_2; or a group $N(R^{10})_2$ may form a 4- to 7-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from O and NR^{10};

R^9 is hydrogen, C_{1-2} alkyl or C_{1-2} fluoroalkyl;

R^{10} is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl; and

p is 0 or 1.

18. (**Previously Presented**) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1, including the compound of proviso c), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. (**Previously Presented; Withdrawn**) A method for the treatment of a disease or condition in which GPR116 plays a role comprising a step of administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, including the compounds of provisos a) to c), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20. (**Previously Presented; Withdrawn**) A method for the regulation of satiety comprising a step of administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, including the compounds of provisos a) to c), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

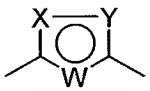
21. (**Previously Presented; Withdrawn**) A method for the treatment of obesity comprising a step of administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, including the compounds of provisos a) to c), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

22. (**Previously Presented; Withdrawn**) A method for the treatment of diabetes comprising a step of administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, including the compounds of provisos a) to c), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

23. (**Currently Amended; Withdrawn**) A method for the treatment of a disease or condition in which GPR116 plays a role comprising a step of administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of the formula:

$$R^1\text{-}V\text{-}B\text{-}R^2$$

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
wherein V represents a 5-membered heteroaryl ring of the formula:



wherein W is N and one of X and Y is N and the other is O;
B is -CH=CH- or $(CH_2)_n$, where one of the CH_2 groups may be replaced by O, NR^5, $S(O)_m$, C(O) or $C(O)NR^{12}$;
n is 0, 1, 2 or 3;
m is 0, 1 or 2;

R^1 is 3- or 4-pyridyl, 4- or 5-pyrimidinyl or 2-pyrazinyl, any of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, OR^6, CN, NO_2, $S(O)_mR^6$, $CON(R^6)_2$, $N(R^6)_2$, $NR^{10}COR^6$, $NR^{10}SO_2R^6$, $SO_2N(R^6)_2$, a 4- to 7-membered heterocyclyl group or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl group;

R^2 is 4- to 7-membered cycloalkyl substituted by R^3, $C(O)OR^3$, $C(O)R^3$ or $S(O)_2R^3$, or R^2 is 4- to 7-membered heterocyclyl, wherein the heterocycle contains one nitrogen atom which is substituted by ~~containing one or two nitrogen atoms which is unsubstituted or substituted by~~ $C(O)OR^4$, $C(O)R^3$, $S(O)_2R^3$, $C(O)NHR^4$, $P(O)(OR^{11})_2$ or a 5- or 6-membered nitrogen containing heteroaryl group;

R^3 is C_{3-8} alkyl, C_{3-8} alkenyl or C_{3-8} alkynyl, any of which may be optionally substituted with up to 5 fluoro or chloro atoms, and may contain a CH_2 group that may be replaced by O, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4} alkylC_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-4} alkylaryl, C_{1-4} alkylheterocyclyl or C_{1-4} alkylheteroaryl, any of which may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^6, CN, CO_2C_{1-4} alkyl, $N(R^6)_2$ and NO_2;

R^4 is C_{2-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl, any of which may be optionally substituted with up to 5 fluoro or chloro atoms, and may contain a CH_2 group that may be replaced by O, or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, C_{1-4} alkylC_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-4} alkylaryl, C_{1-4} alkylheterocyclyl or C_{1-4} alkylheteroaryl, any of which may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^6, CN, CO_2C_{1-4} alkyl, $N(R^6)_2$ and NO_2;

R^5 is hydrogen, $C(O)R^7$, $S(O)_2R^8$, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or C_{1-4} alkyl optionally substituted by OR^6, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl, wherein the cyclic groups may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} fluoroalkyl, OR^6, CN, $N(R^6)_2$ and NO_2;

R^6 are independently hydrogen C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl, wherein the cyclic groups may be substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, OR^9, CN, SO_2CH_3, $N(R^{10})_2$ and NO_2; or a group $N(R^{10})_2$ may form a 4- to 7-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from O and NR^{10};

R^7 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, OR^6, $N(R^6)_2$, aryl or heteroaryl;

R^8 is C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} fluoroalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl;

R^9 is hydrogen, C_{1-2} alkyl or C_{1-2} fluoroalkyl;

R^{10} is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^{11} is phenyl; and

R^{12} is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl.